

[Stories of Morgan's Raid]

Beliefs and Customs - Sketches

Accession no.

12676

Date received 10/10/40

Consignment no. 1

Shipped from Wash. office

Label

Amount 2 p.

WPA L. C. PROJECT Writers' UNIT Folklore Collection (or Type)

Title Stories of Morgan's raid

Place of origin Jefferson Co, Ind Date 1938/39 (N.D.C)

Project worker Grace Monroe

Project editor

Remarks

12676

GRACE MONROE

Library of Congress

District 5, Jefferson County - 2nd. 1938/39

MORGAN'S RAID

240 Words

STORIES OF MORGAN'S RAID

(A). Reference: Mr. J. B. Epply

At the time of Morgan's Raid, Mr. Epply said although he was only six years old, he could remember Morgan's men stacking their guns outside of their yard fence and coming to the door for food. The men left taking a young horse which Mr. Epply's father regained [six?] months later. He had to make a / trip to Cincinnati for his horse which he found uninjured.

One of Mr. Epply's stories of the raid, included the anecdote on Mr. Matthew Henry Gray. Mr. Gray met Morgan and his men at the door with a gun. The gun was immediately seized, stuck in the fork of an apple tree and bent around the tree. Then Mr. Gray was placed upon a very bony old mule — the worst the raiders had — and compelled to ride with them for approximately five miles and walk or hobble home. (A)

Another story was told of the experience of Reuben Rice with Gen. Morgan.

Mr. Rice was a citizen of Graham township, Jefferson County. He was taken by Morgan as far South as Frankfort Kentucky, where he was forced to pray all night that the South might be victorious in the War. (A)

In 1910 Mr. Epply visited Morgan's tomb at Lexington, Kentucky. Before driving out to the cemetery, he was told by a friend living there not to say anything in opposition to Morgan's raid or he would soon stir up trouble in the community. (A)

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MORGAN'S RAID

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Morgan's Raid

Reference: (A) Mrs. J. B. Epply

Mrs. Epply said her grandparents had often told her stories of Morgan's Raid. When Morgan's men left Lexington they traveled north on the present State road [?]. The Jennings home was off the main highway but many of their neighbors gathered on a high portico of the house where they might watch "Morgan and his terrible men" march down the road. (A)

The next day four of the horsemen came and asked for food. Being invited to come in while the meal was prepared for them, they did nothing to molest the property of their host. At one house nearby they were refused admittance, so they entered anyway. Then emptied a barrel of flour in the floor and mixed bread and cooked it for themselves. (A)

Mrs. Epply's aunt and a girl friend were in Lexington at the time of the raid. As they were riding home they met General Morgan leading his men. The girls thought their horses would be stolen, so dismounted [?] being ordered to, by Morgan. They were surprised when their horses were not taken, and were informed that, "Southern Gentlemen Don't Steal Ladies Horses." (A)